

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 have been canceled. New claims 9-32 have been added. It is submitted that there are no new matter incorporated in these amendments.

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite. It is submitted that the amendment of the claims render the rejection moot. The withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Osornio et al. in view of Asai et al

The present invention is directed to an overhead or underground telephone lead-in cable for transmission services (VVDL) which includes a moisture absorbing swelling material impregnated on two insulated conductors. Moreover, the distribution of the film of the swelling material is applied electrostatically such that it is controlled in a quantity proportional to the required thickness of the film. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Osornio regarding a moisture absorbing swellable material.

Asai is directed to a water swellable materials and radiation cure processes for their preparation. In particular it is concerned with the use of such materials and processes for the preparation of water absorbent or water blocking coatings in a rapid continuous process. It further discloses a multitude of polymers.

It is submitted that there is no motivation or suggestion in the prior art to pick and choose a specific polymer from a multitude of polymers and particularly use it for the purpose of preparing the cables of the present invention. In re Ahlbrecht, 435 F.2d 908, 911, 168 USPQ 293, 296 (CCPA 1971).

Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims 1-8 as being unpatentable over Osornio et al. in view of Asai et al.

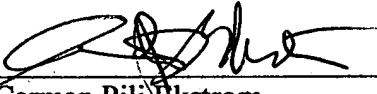
In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for examination. In the event that there are any problems which can be

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expedited by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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